AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of copy protecting a program to be installed on a computer system, said computer system ~~comprising~~ including a computing section and a copy protection unit, said method comprising ~~the following steps~~:

determining a decision section of the program, which decision section, during execution of the program as a function of a current running state of the program, defines ~~wherein~~ information influencing ~~the~~ further course of the program; and ~~is defined during execution of the program as a function of the current running state of the program, and~~

converting the decision section of the program ~~for~~ to produce a copy-protected version of the program, wherein converting comprises: ~~protection by means of~~

providing code in the copy-protected version of the program, wherein said code is executable exclusively in the copy protection unit and exclusively ~~and is executed~~ during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, and wherein said code includes data and a processing regulation applicable to the data for execution of the decision section of the program; and

providing a program instruction in the copy-protected version of the program, the program instruction being configured such that, during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, the copy protection unit is called and the code is transferred to the copy protection unit for execution therein.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said code effects a comparison of two data values and a definition of the information as a function of ~~the~~ a result of said comparison when the code is executed.

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said information comprises a program address at which execution of the program is resumed.

4-6. Cancelled.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, [[5,]]wherein the data ~~required for execution of the decision section~~ and the processing regulation are encoded and are transferred to the copy protection unit in encoded form.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the code in the copy protection unit is executed in a protected area of the computer system, wherein the protected area is closed to the rest of the computer system.

9. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the step of~~ determining a decision section of the program further comprises determining the decision section according to an instruction sequence of the decision section in the program.

10. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising repeating the ~~steps of~~ determining a decision section of the program and converting the decision section to determine and convert a plurality of decision sections, wherein if two similar decision sections are determined, the similar decision sections are converted by different codes in the converting ~~steps~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~peripheral~~ computer device for adding ~~a~~ copy protection ~~function~~ to a program to be installed on a computer system that includes a computing section and ~~, said computer system in electrical communication with the device, said device comprising:~~

~~———~~a copy protection unit, the device comprising:[[;]]

a determining module that ~~, wherein the determining module~~ determines a decision section of the program, which decision section, during execution of the program as a function of a current running state of the program, defines ~~and wherein~~ information influencing ~~the~~ further course of the program; and ~~is defined during execution of the program as a function of the current running state of the program, and~~

a converting module~~, wherein the converting module~~ that produces a copy-protected version of the program, the converting module being configured to convert[[s]] the decision section of the program into a program instruction portion and a code portion of the copy-protected version of the program;~~, and~~

wherein the code portion is executable exclusively in the copy protection unit and exclusively ~~is executed~~ during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, and wherein the code includes data and a processing regulation applicable to the data for execution of the decision section of the program; and

wherein the program instruction portion is configured such that, during execution of the copy-protected version of the program in the computing section, the copy protection unit is called and the code is transferred to the copy protection unit for execution therein.

12. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein said code effects a comparison of two data values and a definition of the information as a function of ~~the~~ a result of said comparison.

13. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein said information comprises a program address[[as]] at which execution of the program is resumed.

14-16. Cancelled.

17. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 11, [[15,]]wherein the data ~~required for execution of the decision section~~ and the processing regulation are encoded and are transferred to the copy protection unit in encoded form.

18. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the code in the copy protection unit is executed in a protected area of the computer system, wherein the protected area is closed to the rest of the computer system.

19. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the decision section is determined according to an instruction sequence of the decision section in the program.

20. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 11, wherein a plurality of decision sections are determined and converted, and wherein if two similar decision sections are determined, the similar decision sections are converted by different codes.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising a program for adding ~~a~~ copy protection ~~function~~ to a preexisting program to be installed on a computer system that includes a computing section and a copy protection process, said computer program comprising:

a determining section that, when executed on a computing device, ~~wherein the determining section~~ causes the computing device to determines a decision section of the preexisting program, which decision section, during execution of the preexisting program as a function of a current running state thereof, defines ~~and wherein~~ information influencing ~~the~~

further course of the preexisting program; and ~~is defined during execution of the preexisting program as a function of the current running state of the preexisting program, and~~

a converting section that, when executed on the computing device, causes the computing device to~~, wherein the converting section~~ produce a copy-protected version of the preexisting program, the converting section being configured to cause the computing device to convert[[s]] the decision section into a program instruction portion and a code portion of the copy-protected version of the program;~~, and~~

wherein the code portion is executable exclusively in the copy protection process ~~computer program~~ and ~~is~~ exclusively ~~executed~~ during execution of the copy-protected version of the preexisting program in the computing section, and wherein the code includes data and a processing regulation applicable to the data for execution of the decision section of the preexisting program; and

wherein the program instruction portion is configured such that, during execution of the copy-protected version of the preexisting program in the computing section, the copy protection process is called and the code is transferred to the copy protection process for execution therein.

22. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program~~ as claimed in claim 21, wherein said code effects a comparison of two data values and a definition of the information as a function of[[the]] a result of said comparison.

23. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program~~ as claimed in claim 21, wherein said information comprises a preexisting program address as which execution of the preexisting program is resumed.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program~~ as claimed in claim 21, wherein the determining section further comprises a ~~preexisting~~ program instruction~~, wherein the preexisting program instruction~~ that, when executed, calls the preexisting program and transfers the code ~~data required for execution of the decision section~~ to the copy protection process ~~computer program~~.

25. Cancelled.

26. Cancelled.

27. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program~~ as claimed in claim 25, wherein the data ~~required for execution of the decision section~~ and the processing regulation are encoded and are transferred to the computer program in encoded form.

28. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program~~ as claimed in claim 21, wherein the code in the copy protection process ~~computer program~~ is executed in a protected area of the computer system, wherein the protected area is closed to the rest of the computer system.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program~~ as claimed in claim 21, wherein the decision section is determined according to an instruction sequence of the decision section in the preexisting program.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium ~~program~~ as claimed in claim 21, wherein a plurality of decision sections are determined and converted, and wherein if two similar decision sections are determined, the similar decision sections are converted by different codes.